

Explanation of 47J loan conditions

During the Vernonia School Board meeting last week, Joel Glass asked about the interest free loan that the district is applying for to fund completion of the middle school project.

The board had no additional information at that time, but district business manager Dawn Plews told *INDEPENDENT* reporter Schann Nelson that the money, given to states as part of the Tax Payer Relief Act of 1997, is still available and there were no other applications.

Regarding the \$1 million

borrowed to begin construction, Plews explained that, though the interest rate increases annually, it remains low. The rate for the first year (this school year) is 1.8 percent, next year it will be 2 percent. Increases will continue, but the amount paid on the debt will decrease because the higher rate is charged against the decreasing principal. For example, debt service this year was \$78,900; in four years the interest rate will be 3.1 percent but debt service will be \$74,900.

Changes in family eligibility for USDA and Food Bank

Vernonia Cares Food Bank, in cooperation with the Oregon Food Bank and USDA programs, has increased client eligibility guidelines. They now are:

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income (all household residents)
1	\$ 1,475
2	\$ 1,978
3	\$ 2,481
4	\$ 2,983
5	\$ 3,486
6	\$ 3,988
7	\$ 4,491
8	\$ 4,993
9	\$ 5,496
10	\$ 5,995
Add'l Add \$ 503 per person	

"Many people don't realize they qualify for emergency grocery assistance," said Cares Director Sandy Welch. "It's a sad thought to realize we have food available for those who might need this help and that

people could be going hungry for lack of that knowledge."

The local food bank tries to make three days worth of emergency groceries available, once a month, for those who could use a little extra help. Registration takes only a few minutes, with a simple one-page form to complete.

"Bring in your proof of residency (i.e. a rent or utility receipt, a piece of mail with your address, or a driver's license)," Welch explained. Also needed are the names of persons within your household, their ages, birth dates and whether combined household income falls within the eligibility guidelines, which you verify through your signature.

"A short food interview follows so the order can be tailored to your family's preferences," she continued. "The order is then filled by volunteers, and you're out the door within 15-30 minutes, most of the

time. We try to make the visit as streamlined as possible. We know people have busy schedules," concluded Welch.

The food bank serves an average of 82 households per month, helping 231 people, 38 percent of whom are children. Vernonia Cares Food Bank, located within the Legion Building at 627 Adams Avenue, is open Tuesday and Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Alternate food pick up times are possible, by appointment. Questions may be directed to Welch at 503-429-1414.

Columbia 9-1-1 sets board meeting

The Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District Board of Directors next regular board meeting will be June 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District Facility in St. Helens.



B&B Computing

Quality work at reasonable rates

- > System configuration, upgrades and problem resolution
- > Graphics, ads, brochures and Digital Camera help
- > Internet connectivity (DSL) and training
- > Home & business applications

(503) 429-0817

bnb998@msn.com

Community Calendar

JUNE 2005							JULY 2005							AUGUST 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
26	27	28	29	30			31													

VERNONIA

Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Alcoholics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
American Legion Post #119	2nd Thursday	627 Adams Avenue
Arts & Crafts Society	2nd Thursday	2:00 p.m., City Library
Booster Club	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., VHS Library
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Scout Cabin
Boy Scout Troop 860	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church
Cemetery Beautification Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., Leonetti's Grill
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wednesday	For Info Call 503-429-6081
Community Coalition	2nd Monday	12:30 p.m. School District Ofc.
Cub Scout Pack 201	Scout Cabin	For Info Call 503-429-0188
Doll Club	4th Tuesday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Friends of the Library	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library
Hands On Art Committee	1st & 3rd Thursdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Home Extension Club	3rd Thursday	10:30 a.m., Christian Church
Izaak Walton League	3rd Thursday	For location call 503-429-7193
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., Buckhorn Restaurant
Nehalem Valley Car Club		For Info Call 503-429-4074
Pioneer Museum		For Info Call 503-429-3713
Preschool Story Hour	Mondays	10:30 a.m., City Library
Upper Nehalem C.P.A.C.	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Venturing Crew 201	1st & 3rd Thursdays	5:30 p.m., Buckhorn Restaurant
Vernonia Airport Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Cares Directors		For Info call 503-429-1414
Vernonia City Council	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Community PTA	3rd Thursday	6:30 p.m., WGS Library
Vernonia Grange	4th Saturday	10:30 a.m., Grange Hall
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Monday	6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St.
Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st & 3rd Thursdays	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Pride	3rd Thursday	1:00 p.m., City Hall
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., Senior Center
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia School Board	2nd Thursday	6:00 p.m., District Office
Vernonia Sr. Center Board	3rd Friday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Vern. Volunteer Ambulance Assoc.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., WOEC

MIST-BIRKENFELD

M-BRFPD Board Business Mtg.	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-BRFPD Board Workshop	4th Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Ambulance Drill	1st & 2nd Thursdays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Fire Drill	1st & 2nd Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Helping Circle	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B SAR Drill	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Volunteer Assoc.	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Natal Grange Hall
T.O.P.S.	Mondays	6:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	For date call 429-2401	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station

BANKS

Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	8:00 p.m., Methodist Church
American Legion Post #90	2nd Tuesdays	7:30 p.m., Main Street Post
Banks City Council	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., City Hall
Banks Fire District #13	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Station 13
Banks Planning Commission	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Banks School Board	2nd Monday	7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library
Banks Youth Group	Sundays, Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg.
Chamber of Commerce	1st Thursday	12:30 p.m., Fire District Office
CPO 14	3rd Monday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Friends of the Library	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 p.m., Schlegel Hall
Sunset Park Assoc.	3rd Wednesday	8:00 p.m., Gun Club
T.O.P.S.	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Administration Bldg.
Women's Aglow	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library

COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Sunset Park Church
Columbia Soil & Water District	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., NRCS, 2514 Sykes
County Fair Board	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg.
County Parks Commission	3rd Monday	6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Mental Health Advisory Comm.	3rd Tuesday	10 a.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse
Comm. on Children & Families	3rd Thursday	5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 550 N. Hwy. 30
Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm.	2nd Tuesday	3:00 p.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410 or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.